

Shrewsbury Public Schools Annual Report 2016



Superintendent's Message



I am honored to present this annual report of the Shrewsbury Public Schools for calendar year 2016. This report shows that our schools continue to provide a world-class education as we strive to meet the strategic priorities set by the School Committee (shown below).

Within this document, you will find profiles of successful students, educators, and alumni who exemplify our district's mission and core values. I think you'll agree that they embody our motto of "empowering learners."

I wish to thank Karen Isaacson, Director of Extended Learning, and Elizabeth McCollum, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, for managing this project. I am especially proud that a student, Kevin Murphy (SHS Class of 2017) was the graphic designer for the project! I am also very grateful to the local community partners listed on the last page, whose financial support made the publication and distribution of this report possible.

Thank you to everyone in Shrewsbury for your support of our schools. I hope this report illustrates how the investment our town makes in public education is paying a substantial return, both by providing an excellent education for our youth and by improving the quality of life in our community.

- Dr. Joseph M. Sawyer



District Overview

Mission

The Shrewsbury Public Schools, in partnership with the community, will provide students with the skills and knowledge for the 21st century, an appreciation of our democratic tradition, and the desire to continue to learn throughout life.

Core Values

- Respect & Responsibility
- Collaboration & Communication
- Commitment to High Standards & Expectations
- Equity

District Administrators



Mary Beth Banios,
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction



Barbara A. Malone
Director of Human Resources



Patrick C. Collins
Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations



Margaret M. Belsito
Director of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services

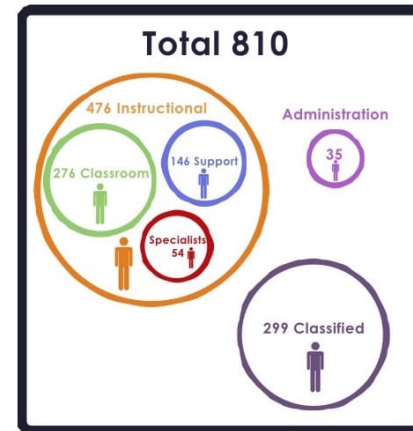
A special thank you to resident Joyce Maranto/Maranto Studios Photography for taking the photos of our featured students and faculty. She graciously volunteered her time and talent!

Student Demographics

% Average Shrewsbury vs. State

	% of District	% of State
Graduation Rate	95	88
First Language Not English	30.2	20.1
English Language Learner	4	9.5
Students With Disabilities	13.6	17.4
Free or Reduced Lunch	25.4	45.2
Economically Disadvantaged	9.1	30.2
Ethnicity: African American	1.9	8.9
Asian	28.5	6.7
Hispanic	7.8	19.4
Native American	0.3	0.2
Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander	0	0.1
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	3.5	3.4
White	58.1	61.3

Staff Demographics



Our Schools

Total enrollment: 6191



Parker Road Preschool, Wesleyan Terrace, and Little Colonials
Pre-K
Lisa Robinson, Principal
Enrollment = 232



Beal Early Childhood Center
Grades K - 1
Chris Girardi, Principal
Enrollment = 318



Calvin Coolidge School
Grades K - 4
Amy Clouter, Principal
Enrollment = 409



Floral Street School
Grades 1-4
Lisa McCubrey, Principal
Enrollment = 722



Walter J. Paton School
Grades K - 4
Wendy Bell, Principal
Enrollment = 366



Spring Street School
Grades K - 4
Bryan Mabie, Principal
Enrollment = 372



Sherwood Middle School
Grades 5 - 6
Dr. Jane Lizotte, Principal
Enrollment = 977



Oak Middle School
Grades 7 - 8
Dr. Ann Jones, Principal
Enrollment = 1003



Shrewsbury High School
Grades 9-12
Todd Bazydlo, Principal
Enrollment = 1792

School Committee

The Shrewsbury School Committee consists of five elected members, each of whom serves a three-year term. At the start of 2016, John Samia served as chair, Sandra Fryc served as vice chair and Erin Canzano served as secretary. In May, Sandra Fryc was elected chair, Dr. Dale Magee was elected vice chair and Jon Wensky was elected secretary.

Cover Pictures

(Left) SHS Robotics team – Recipient of the prestigious Chairman's Award
(Right) SHS Speech team – State Champions



Erin Canzano



Sandra Fryc



Dr. B. Dale Magee



John Samia

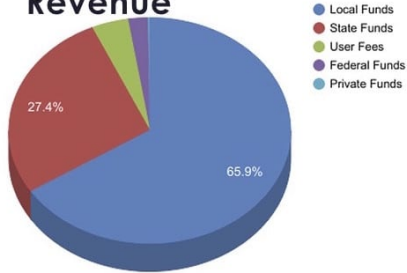


Jon Wensky

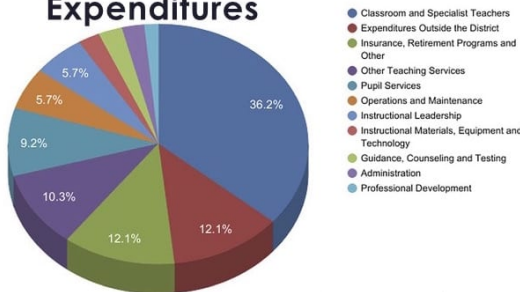
October 1, 2016 Statistics - Source: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Financial Perspective

Revenue



Expenditures



Per pupil spending:
\$2139 below average or
14% below average



Budget Overview

The educational investment for Fiscal Year 2016 totaled \$83.9M, with primary sources of funding coming from local tax receipts and state aid. Additional sources of revenue include federal and private grants, and fee-based school programs. More than half of these revenue dollars are spent directly on teachers, para-professionals and instructional materials, while only 2% is designated for administrative costs (among the lowest in the state). The charts above provide a visual overview of where the money comes from and how it is spent.

“

I am a proud product of the Shrewsbury school system, which I attended K-12. It was through the schools' classroom and extracurricular activities that I cultivated my lifelong love of learning. My interests in art and science, and the wonderful teachers who fostered those interests, informed my choice to pursue orthodontics, a career I love. I am so grateful to be able to serve the community that has served me so well. ”



Dr. Amanda McManus,
Class of 1999, is a graduate of Colgate University. She completed a doctorate in Dental Medicine at University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine, where she also earned a master's in Dental Sciences, and a certificate in Orthodontics. She is currently a practicing orthodontist here in Shrewsbury at her office, McManus Orthodontics.

2015 Honors & Achievements

- The SHS Speech team won its first ever team state championship. Three members won individual state championships, and one became national champion.
- The Spring Musical, *Urinetown*, won eight High School Musical Theatre Awards, including Best Overall Production.
- The SHS robotics team won the prestigious Chairman's Award for the second year in a row.
- Two SHS juniors won first place in the State Science Fair held at MIT.
- An elementary Destination Imagination team from Floral Street School won the state championship in the "structural challenge" category.
- Seven students won first place in their events at the State Science Olympiad.
- 21 SHS students earned All-Central District honors for concert band, jazz band, orchestra, and chorus—one of the top showings among all Central Mass music programs, with six students performing in the All-State concert at Boston's Symphony Hall.
- The Oak Middle School Select Choir won its first-ever gold medal at the regional competition.
- The SHS fall play, *Picnic*, won the prestigious Moss Hart Award from the New England Theatre Conference.
- 17 student artists won awards in state competitions.
- 26 SHS athletic teams qualified for postseason play.
 - °Football: State runner-up, Division 2, qualifying them to play in the State Final at Gillette Stadium
 - °Gymnastics: 3rd place, Division 1 state championship
 - °League Champions: Boys' Cross Country, Cheerleading, Gymnastics, Girls' Ice Hockey, Boys' Ice Hockey
 - °District Finalists: Baseball, Girls' Tennis
- The Class of 2016 completed 18,544 hours of community service in their four years as SHS students.

Kate Lewis

Ms. Lewis has been an English Language Arts teacher at Oak Middle School for 13 years. She is passionate about helping students learn about the world through literature and the importance of writing and communicating in today's global society.



“

believe that, as a teacher, my job is not only to teach reading and writing skills, but also to help students develop the cooperative, problem-solving, and independent thinking skills necessary for success in today's world. It is my goal to make learning relevant and meaningful for the students, and Shrewsbury Public Schools has provided support for my colleagues and me to continually develop and adapt the curriculum to foster real-world connections and community collaboration. ”

Bryant Clark

Mr. Clark has been teaching chorus and general music in Shrewsbury since 2004. For the last 12 years, he has been the 7th and 8th grade chorus and Electronic Music teacher at Oak Middle School. He holds a B.A. in Music Performance from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell and a master's in Arts Education from Fitchburg State University. In addition to classroom teaching, he enjoys directing the Oak Middle School Select Choir.



“

My goal as a music educator is to inspire and challenge all students to be creative risk-takers through composing and performing music. With the use of technology in the Oak Music Lab and the 1:1 iPad program, I am able to use new and innovative approaches to teach music composition. This provides young musicians with an outlet to create music that is original and self-expressive. ”

October 1, 2016 Statistics - Source: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

“Shrewsbury High School has been a place that I could call home for the past four years. Between school and extracurricular activities, I'd be at the school for up to ten or twelve hours on game day. As for education, I couldn't have asked for a better experience. I have never had a teacher who was not willing to stay after for my benefit. In addition to this, teachers and administration continue to help students outside of school hours at organized events. It's truly a pleasure to be around so many individuals who want to help you. Shrewsbury High School not only gave me the education I need to succeed, it gave me the confidence, character, and foundation for how I can continue to contribute and make the world around us a better place.”

“I have been lucky enough to have been a part of the Shrewsbury Public Schools for twelve years now, and I would not trade the experience I have had for the world. The quality of not only the education I have received, but of the teachers and students I have met throughout my educational career in this district, is absolutely unprecedented, and I have grown so much as a student and as a leader because of my experiences here. From walking through the doors of Floral Street School as a first grader to walking out the doors of Shrewsbury High School as a senior, I know that Shrewsbury has prepared me for everything my future holds for me.”

Jared Godek, Class of 2017

– Jared is an All-Star athlete in basketball and football, and served as the captain of the varsity football team. He is a member of the National Honor Society, and helped organize the student/faculty charity basketball game to benefit ALS.



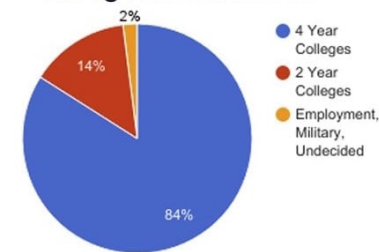
Sophia Marshall, Class of 2017

– Sophia is a three-season athlete and track captain in the winter and spring. She is also a member of the orchestra, a class officer, and the founder and president of the English National Honor Society at SHS.

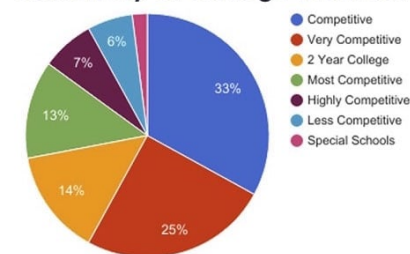


Future Plans

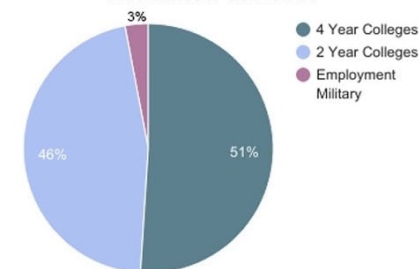
College Matriculation



Selectivity of College Matriculation



Future Plans for Students with Special Education Services



Jean-Marie Johnson

Ms. Johnson is in her 16th year as the Director of Mathematics at Shrewsbury High School. She holds a B.S. from Russell Sage College and an M.A. from Smith College. Prior to becoming the Director, she was a math educator at Shrewsbury High and for Springfield Public Schools.

Matthew P. O'Connor, Class of 1989, holds an MBA from F. W. Olin Graduate School of Business at Babson College and a bachelor's degree in economics from Saint Anselm College. He has 22 years of investment industry experience and is currently president of American Funds Distributors, part of Capital Group. He is based in Los Angeles.



“Shrewsbury High came at the right time for me. I look back and realize how important those few years were. I now more fully appreciate how much the folks helping me in the classroom and on the athletic field have been a part of my ongoing journey.”

“

Having earned my teaching degree from UMass-Amherst, I entered this profession with the goal of educating children and their families about the importance of the environment. When Floral Street School was being constructed, I was busy in the back woods carving out the nature trail so it would be ready to host exploration as soon as the building opened. Twenty years, four Eagle Scout projects, three bridges, and a boardwalk later, the trail has tripled in size. Ten classes of children have worked on a weekly basis to observe and document patterns of change in the natural world. Both the Massachusetts Environmental Educators Society and the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs have recognized our trail as an innovative learning resource. Currently I am working with a team of teachers on the Elementary Science Committee to find ways we can provide a similar outdoor experience to all of our elementary students. In addition, we are working to promote school gardens at each campus. Nature has so much to teach.”

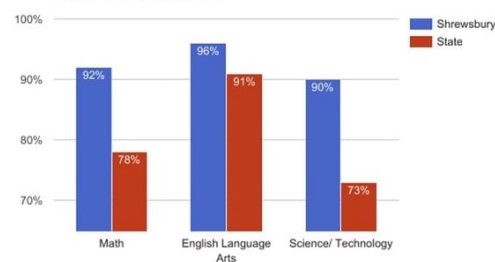
Kara Frankian

Ms. Frankian has worked for SPS as a first- and second- grade teacher for 22 years. She is devoted to promoting environmental literacy as she loops with her students and their families for two consecutive years. Moving from Beal School to Floral Street School when it opened in 1997, she has partnered with a range of community members to build and maintain the nature trail behind the school. She is the recipient of the first-ever Champion of Environmental Literacy Award from the Massachusetts Environmental Education Society.

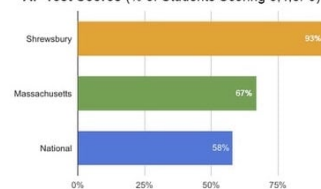


Academic Achievement

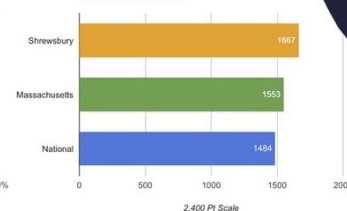
Grade 10 MCAS Scores



AP Test Scores (% of Students Scoring 3,4, or 5)



Mean SAT I Scores



Hon. Maura K. McCarthy

Class of 1983, is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross and the Southern New England School of Law. After an 18-year career with the District Attorney's Office for the Middle District, she was appointed an Associate Justice of the District Court. Presently she is the Presiding Justice in the Western Worcester District Court.



“

Shrewsbury High School was an extension of my parents and family. My teachers, coaches, and friends had very high standards and expectations that compelled me to achieve, even if it

challenged my comfort zone. Academically, the Advanced Placement courses taught me to collaborate, think critically, problem-solve, and be mindful of how decisions affect others. Athletically, sports at Shrewsbury High School provided the life skills of self-discipline, resilience, leadership, and team building. Shrewsbury High connected me to lifelong friends, many of whom continue to serve our great town. The opportunities provided by teachers, coaches, and friends make me a proud, grateful, and loyal Shrewsbury High School graduate.”

“

Shrewsbury High School is a place where students are encouraged to explore what they are interested in while also obtaining a comprehensive education. I have taken advantage of this flexibility by taking several Advanced Placement classes, such as Spanish, Biology, and Psychology. In addition, I have been taking Latin alongside Spanish for the last three years. My interest in foreign language has been especially fostered through the support of the foreign language department. With the opportunity, resources, and support from the Shrewsbury Public School system, students are able to take initiative over their education, preparing them to become responsible, self-advocating learners.”

Subin Jeong, Class of 2017

Subin is the vice president of Student Council and treasurer of the Spanish National Honor Society. She was also a bronze medalist at the 2016 Taekwondo US Open.



October 1, 2016 Statistics - Source: Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

“I feel fortunate to work in a high achieving community that is always striving to improve. As Director of Mathematics at the high school, I have had the opportunity to build our program to support all levels of math learners, and to help them develop as problem solvers and achieve in advanced math courses. I love working with students and encouraging them to recognize the beauty of mathematics in our world, by viewing it as a dynamic subject, where we look for patterns, develop models, justify reasoning, and make sense of ideas. My favorite moments are when I hear students collaborating, questioning, and asking, “Why?” These are the moments our math program promotes.”

“Through my nine years as a student in the Shrewsbury Public School system, I have not only been enriched by a rigorous academic program, but enlightened with so many new experiences that have led me to find my passion in the performing arts. Not only have I gained textbook knowledge, but I have also become a well-rounded human being. Outside of the classroom, I have enjoyed taking part in a variety of school productions including the fall plays and spring musicals. Thanks to the outstanding music and drama departments of the Shrewsbury Public Schools, I have discovered my love for the performing arts, and discovered what I want to spend the rest of my life doing.”

Preston Karp, Class of 2021 – Preston is the Vice President of the Oak Middle School Speech Team, a Peer Mediator at Oak, and Shrewsbury's ambassador to Project 351, a statewide youth service organization.





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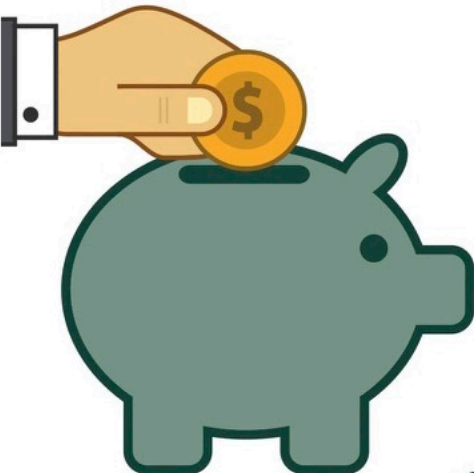
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